

Around Town

Steve Games, President of Prudential California Realty, announced at the company annual awards banquet that Joe Southwick was the top salesperson for 1998 in terms of Gross Closed Income for the La Mesa office. Joe was also recognized as one of the top 25 agents company wide in San Diego County for the number of sold properties.

Joe Southwick's business is built on repeat clients and client referrals and he attributes his success to providing professional service, experience and dedication. "It is very gratifying to be recognized by your peers as one of the industry leaders. True satisfaction, however, comes from successfully helping my clients achieve their goals while buying or selling real estate," said Southwick...

Members of BIZNET, Spring Valley's business networking group, were treated to a fun and eye-opening presentation last week by long time Spring Valley businessman Joe Stevens. Steven's presentation was the first in a new series of motivational talks by local success stories being held by BIZNET.

Many locals know Joe as one of the owners of the Ox Bow Inn restaurant, but BIZNET members were given a glimpse of Joe's extremely diverse background as an entrepreneur spanning 25 years in Spring Valley. Joe's inspirational stories of how he overcame obstacles throughout the 70's, 80's and 90's gave the group insight into how to be successful in today's business world.

* Joe's contributions to Spring Valley and East County have been numerous and far-reaching. Over the years, Joe has started the Fiesta Dinner Theater, owned the Ox Bow Inn restaurant twice, been a founder of Valle de Oro Bank, been a member of BIZNET, owned his own Business Consulting company, started several other businesses, and is currently a Rotarian.

Never one to go into full retirement, he still keeps active mentoring new businesses through the SCORE program of the Small Business Administration. When Joe is not enjoying the golf course in Sun City, he and his wife Lois share their time with civic and business groups. They visit Spring Valley several times a year to keep their finger on the pulse in Casa de Oro and to visit their children....

KMA Architecture & Engineering has begun architectural, mechanical and electrical design for the expansion remodeling of the 65,000-square-foot Pacific Theatre entertainment complex in the Grossmont Shopping Center in La Mesa.

KMA was retained by owner/developer Pacific Theatres for the approximately \$5.5 million project, with Rob McCutcheon as project manager and Jay Swerdlow as Vice President. Construction of the two-story facility will begin this month, with completion slated for September.

The project entails the conversion of eight existing theaters, which were designed by KMA in 1996, to stadium seating. Additionally, two new theaters will be constructed, one containing 500 seats and the other containing 628 seats, the latter representing the largest single-screen theater in San Diego County with a 65-foot-wide screen.

The Project also involves the construction of a new lobby that will be oriented toward the shopping center mall.

Emer Plan

Continued from front page

dit of the items you have and those you need," Milligan said. Then make a shopping list of the item you need and how much of each. "You don't have to buy everything at once," she said. "But everytime you go to the store, buy something off the list."

Make storing and rotating non-perishable foods in your emergency cache an on-going habit, she added. Even long-lasting staples are subject to deterioration.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency offers the following storage tips for foods in both your family cupboard and those stored for emergency use: keep food in the driest and coolest spot in the house, a dark area is preferable for the emergency food supply, keep food covered at all times, open food boxes or cans carefully so you can close them tightly after each use, wrap cookies and crackers in plastic bags and keep them in tight containers, empty opened packages of sugar, dried fruits and nuts into screw-top jars or air-tight cans to protect them from pests, inspect all food containers for signs of spoilage before use.

"As for a knowledge of CPR and First Aid, call your local Red Cross chapter and sign up all family members for the classes or refresher courses," Milligan advised.

Don Bauder to address Navajo Republican Women, Federated

LA MESA—Don Bauder, Financial Editor of the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, will be the primary speaker at the April 13 meeting of Navajo Republican Women, Federated. Also, he will present Navajo's annual "Don Bauder Scholarship Award" to Jaime Blackwell. Blackwell is a graduating senior at Granite Hills High School with a 4.2 Grade Point Average. She was selected based on an essay she wrote in response to the questions: "Why is the U.S. Constitution unique in human history and why should each U.S. citizen value its contents?

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 13, at the Brigantine, 9350 Fuerte Drive, La Mesa. The business meeting will commence at 11 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon. After lunch, Bauder will present the scholarship award and give his economic predictions for our nation's economy. A short question-and-answer period will follow.

The public is welcome, but reservations (\$13) are required. For more information and reservations, one may call 582-3312.

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Lyle and Grace Caddell win RE/MAX Honors

EL CAJON—Jonathan Kohl, president of RE/MAX Associates, the largest local RE/MAX operations, is proud to announce that Lyle and Grace Caddell at RE/MAX Associates' El Cajon office was RE/MAX Associates' top selling team for 1998.

More than 150 sales associates are affiliated with RE/MAX Associates' 10 offices located throughout San Diego County.

The Caddells' efforts in 1998 earned them the prestigious RE/MAX Platinum Club Award. They were No. 1 in sales at the El Cajon office located in Rancho San Diego, and No. 2 for all of RE/MAX Associates.

In 1998, the Caddells closed 74 transactions, representing property valued at \$18.4 million. In August 1998 alone, they closed 14 transactions representing more than \$3.5 million in real estate.

Lyle says he's expecting to sell more than \$20 million of property in 1999.

In 1996, the Caddells launched their sales career when they joined RE/MAX Associates at 2451 Jamacha Road in the Rancho San Diego area. Lyle was an office manager at another real estate company for two years before he started selling. He has a bachelor's degree in marketing from San Diego State University.

Grace, who is Hispanic and bilingual, was a loan officer and appraiser for seven years before she began selling. The couple, who have lived in East County for more than 25 years, have three young children.

According to Kohl, the couple has a large repeat, referral clientele.

"Their success can be attributed to their knowledge of all aspects of the business, including product, appraisal and finance, and their never-ending desire to help their clients reach their goals," said Kohl.

The Caddells work with several types of properties, including single-family homes for first-time buyers and high-end custom estates. They can be reached at (619) 401-2150.

RE/MAX, which stands for "real estate maximums," offers maximum real estate service in San Diego County with about 350 agents affiliated with 20 local offices.

Emergency Preparedness plan offered by Henry's Marketplace

EL CAJON—Faced with such diverse potential emergencies as Y2K and rumblings on the San Andreas Fault, Californians have long been urged to take a page from the Boy Scout Handbook and "Be Prepared."

The El Cajon Henry's, 152 North Second Street, is offering a free seminar, "Putting Your Emergency First Aid Kit Together: A Natural Approach to First Aid," April 23 at 3 p.m. Sue Bennett, a 20-year professional in the natural food industry is the speaker. Sign up in the Vitamin Department, or call 579-8251 to register.

While building a supply of non-perishable foods, health preparations, a first aid kit and emergency/safety equipment may seem a daunting task, there are ways to cut it down to size, according to Patti Milligan, MS, RD, with Henry's Marketplace in San Diego.

"Begin by making a plan based on two major elements: a household inventory and knowledge of first aid and CPR," she said.

The 14 Henry's stores are currently offering a free flyer that includes: a familiar food items checklist with required servings for a 72-hour supply of non-perishable foods, a checklist of natural remedies for health and first aid, a utensils, tools and emergency items checklist.

"Use these checklists to take an au-

Please see Emer Plan on back page

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Commentary:

The new water wars: MWD risking historic division of Colorado River water

By Senator David G. Kelley

California is on the brink of another water war that threatens to scuttle an historic plan to manage the state's share of Colorado River water and destabilize a state-federal effort to restore the fragile San Joaquin Bay-Delta. For Southern California, which relies on the Colorado River and Bay-Delta to provide water to 16 million residents, the stakes could not be higher.

At the center of the latest maelstrom is a familiar antagonist: the colossal Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which has spent the better part of three years trying to scuttle an historic and critically-needed water transfer between the Imperial Irrigation District and the San Diego County Water Authority. That agriculture to urban transfer is the centerpiece of California's 4.4 Plan for the Colorado River. Successful completion of this plan is essential to the success of the CALFED program to restore the Bay-Delta and to shore up the quality and reliability of State Water Project supplies.

In a series of provocative actions that threaten to ignite a decades-long water war, Metropolitan has repudiated a 1931 accord — which Metropolitan itself signed — that divides California's 4.4 million acre-feet of water among the Southern California water agencies. In doing so, Metropolitan demanded that U.S. Secretary of the Interior relocate, without compensation, water from the Imperial Irrigation District to Metropolitan. Secretary Babbitt, who has emphatically stated he has no authority to do so, flatly rejected Metropolitan's request. Undaunted, Metropolitan has pressed on with its reallocation scheme.

In February, Metropolitan reneged on a 1989 agreement it made with the Coachella Valley Water District that divided water conserved in Imperial Valley, under Metropolitan's 1988 conservation agreement, with the Imperial Irrigation District. Metropolitan's repudiation of that contract was so outrageous that Coachella's general manager, in a letter to Bruce Babbitt, exclaimed, "It is hard to negotiate with someone who is trying to break the last bargain they made."

Earlier this month, in one reckless stroke, Metropolitan reversed course on two historic agreements that, together, would have assured the transfer of up to 200,000 acre-feet of water a year from the Imperial Valley to San Diego County for as long as 75 years. Metropolitan's Board of Directors voted to file an official protest against the transfer at the State Water Resources Control Board, which must review and approve the transfer before any water moves into San Diego County. The water transfer agreement, signed just 11 months ago, is the largest agriculture to urban water transfer in U.S. history. Compounding the audacity of officially protesting a transfer that it swears it supports, Metropolitan is also breaking a commitment it made just five short months ago, with San Diego County Water Authority, to transport water conserved in Imperial Irrigation District to the county. In that agreement, Metropolitan pledged to support the transfer at the State Water Resources Control Board.

Finally, Metropolitan's series of offensive actions includes the repudiation of the California Legislature, itself.

Last fall, following collapse of a comprehensive water resources bond bill, the state legislature approved a bill written by Senator Steve Peace, and co-authored by me, to appropriate \$235 million to fund critical canal lining and groundwater projects that would create a new water supply in Southern California — with the lion's share of that supply going to Metropolitan. In lobbying for the bill's passage, Metropolitan promised the legislature it would support the Imperial Irrigation District-San Diego County Water Authority transfer.

Metropolitan's string of provocative actions will be the subject of a hearing by the Senate Select Committee on Southern California Water Districts' Expenditures and Governance Committee, an oversight committee established to investigate actions by Metropolitan to subvert key water supply accords and charges of fiscal mismanagement at the agency. Among the charges under investigation are a \$220 million cost overrun at the agency's Eastside Reservoir project in Riverside County and allegations that Metropolitan managers and board members kept the overruns secret from the state legislature, the media, and the public for nearly a year.

Traditionally, the legislature has been reluctant to intervene in the affairs of local government agencies. However, in the case of Metropolitan, an agency created by the legislature in 1928, the time to intervene and restructure has arrived.

Republican Senator David G. Kelley is chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Southern California Water Districts' Expenditures and Governance, as well as vice-chairman of the Senate Agriculture and Water Resources Committee. His district includes Imperial County and portions of Riverside and San Diego counties.

Selling your own home

When home sales were slow and prices were lower, some homeowners elected to try to sell on their own homes because they could not afford to pay the real estate brokerage fee. Now that the market place is hot, selling your home can be a great temptation. With homes selling quicker and for more money, home sellers consider selling their homes because the task appears to be easy.

Do not let the glamour of what appears to be easy tempt you down the wrong road. Anyone can sell a home on his or her own. And anyone can end up in a lawsuit. Anyone can take a contract to escrow to close. And anyone can take a closed escrow to court. In other words, look before you leap and consider the following:

You know all the things to disclose about your home, but do you know about the things to disclose about your area, i.e. the landfill, the helicopter noise, the new freeway off-ramp, the proposed street widening, the future tax bonds, etc?

Escrow can process the papers but they won't provide documentation regarding earthquake, fire, lead based paint, EPA requirements and zone disclosure laws, negotiate with the appraiser, meet the home inspector, compare home warranty companies, or shop for a lender.

Finding the buyer does not create the biggest risk in the real estate sale. Processes throughout the closing of the transaction represent the greatest liability in the home sale.

Selling your own home is somewhat similar to repairing your own electrical wiring. You may save money by doing it yourself.

Editor's note: Jeff Campbell is an East County Realtor with Century 21 All Service and can be reached at 445-3322.

East County Real Estate

By Jeff Campbell

Census managers sought

VAN NUYS — The U.S. Bureau of the Census is seeking people with the qualifications to manage local census offices in El Cajon and south San Diego for the year 2000 census. The jobs pay between \$15 and \$20.50 per hour.

Office managers and assistant office managers will direct and monitor census procedures, ensure quality of data, train and supervise field staff, ensure the work stays within budget, and perform other tasks.

For further information, one may call (818)904-6606.

Free class on back pain

Alvarado Hospital will conduct a free class, "Taking the Guess Work Out of Diagnosing Back and Neck Pain" at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the Alvarado Hospital Conference Center, 6645 Alvarado Rd., adjacent to the hospital.

John Finkenberg, M.D., an orthopedic specialist and pain management specialist William Wilson, M.D. will present information on what is new in diagnosing back and neck pain problems and what options are available for treatment.

"Finding the cause of persistent back and neck pain is the first step in treatment," said Dr. Finkenberg. For further information and to register call (800) 400-7003.

New BLM mining rules proposed

SACRAMENTO — The Bureau of Land Management will hold hearings to solicit public input on a series of proposed rule changes that representatives said are intended to minimize damage to public lands due to surface mining operations.

The proposed rule changes address issues having to do with administration, financial responsibility, monitoring and public comment.

Public hearings are scheduled to take place after the Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed rule changes is completed and released.

In California, hearings are scheduled at San Francisco on April 20, Ontario on April 21, and Sacramento on April 22.

For further information and to view the new rules, one may access the BLM website at www.blm.gov or contact Larry Finfer, (202)208-6913 or Bob Anderson at (202)208-4201.

Comments on the proposed rule change and the EIS are due by May 10, 1999 and may be entered at WOCComment@wo.blm.gov or sent to Bureau of Land Management, Administrative Record, Nevada State Office, P.O. Box 12000, Reno, Nevada 89520-0006.

University of California opens web site

DAVIS — Consumers may now access the University of California Cooperative Extension web site to download news on the latest research and development agricultural projects, as well as e-mail addresses for some 50 experts on topics ranging from global warming and food safety to Africanized honey bees and sustainable agriculture.

The site may be accessed at <http://danr.ucop.edu/news>.

Probation department seeks reserve volunteers

SAN DIEGO — The San Diego County Probation Department is seeking volunteers to make a one-year commitment for 20 hours per month of service assisting probation department officers in a variety of tasks.

Reservists receive academy training, carry a badge, and participate in support such support tasks as teaching living and literacy skills, making home visits, gathering information for court reports and more.

Candidates must be at least 21 years of age, be a U.S. citizen, have no felony convictions, and have a valid California driving license.

For further information, one may call program coordinator, Ardy Shaw at 694-4345.

No more cards, please!

Flood of cards a burden to hapless recipient

By Billie Jo Shepherd

Staff Writer

A call to send business cards to a boy supposedly dying of a terminal brain tumor is not only "not valid," according to Make-A-Wish Foundation officials, but has long been considered undesirable for circulation by the hapless recipient of the cards.

A chain letter recently circulated among East County businesses, news gatherers and churches, asks that business cards be sent to seven-year-old Craig Shelford, care of Children's Make-A-Wish Foundation in Atlanta, Ga.

The boy is described as, "...having little time left to live," and is said to have, "...expressed a desire to have an entry in the World Book of Records for the largest collection of business cards collected by an individual."

The problem is, said Communications Manager Petri Darby of Make-A-Wish Foundation, the cards requested were greeting cards, not business cards, the boy's name is Shergold, not Shelford, he was nine, not seven, and, most importantly, the brain tumor was successfully and permanently removed — in 1991.

"He is now a happy, healthy college student in England," Darby said. "He requested an end to the cards a long time ago."

Shergold, a resident of England, was diagnosed with the tumor in 1989 and do, indeed, request that Children's Wish Foundation — not affiliated with Make-a-Wish in any way — to help him achieve a record-breaking collection of greeting cards.

Kind-hearted senders in a number of countries responded with a flood of cards that more than fulfilled Shergold's needs: 16 million cards by 1990, Darby said, and an estimated 30 million by now.

"The Guinness Book of World Records retired the (greeting card collection) category in his honor," Darby said.

The call for cards, however, took on a life of its own in near-nightmare fashion. Not only did written material continue to circulate but, over the course of being repeatedly rewritten, became more dramatic and incorporated more and more inaccuracies. Not only did that of Shergold's name and that of the charitable organization that assisted him change, but, as with the current incarnation being circulated, the types of cards requested has evolved.

Darby said, to his knowledge, the address given is that of a warehouse in Atlanta, from which the continuing flood of cards is now recycled, for lack of anything better to do with them.

"It's just one of those things that lives on and on," Darby said.

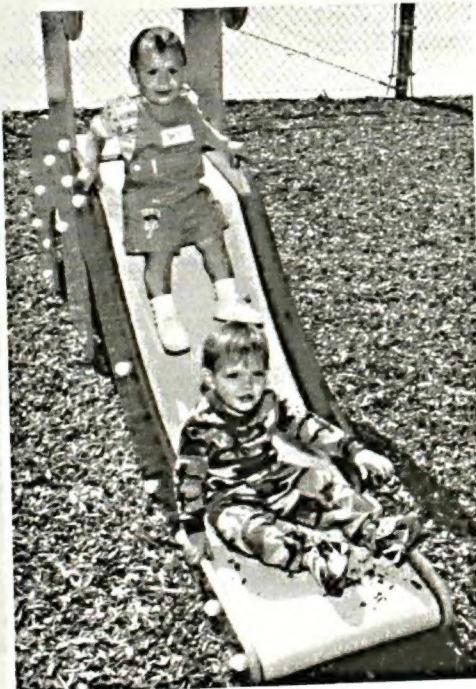
Even more bizarre is a similar request being circulated on behalf of Ryan McGee, of Virginia, who has never asked for cards of any kind at all. The flood of mail he has received prompted his family to stop mail delivery at the address given — which, ironically, remains the one constant that seems to remain unchanged as the letters evolve.

In an effort to better inform the public about the universal desire to stop the seemingly endless supply of cards, Make-A-Wish has created a toll-free information line, but even that doesn't seem to have stemmed the generosity of the and equally endless supply of senders.

"There are many opportunities to help other Make-A-Wish children," Darby said, adding that it would be helpful if more newspapers would take the time to look further into requests such as these before publicizing them.

The toll-free Shergold information line is (800)215-1333.

Make-A-Wish may be contacted locally by calling 453-9474. Interested parties may also access the Make-A-Wish Foundation on the internet at www.wish.org.



Infant and Toddler Center opens at Grossmont College

EL CAJON — The Grossmont College Child Development Program has expanded daycare services and increased educational opportunities for students with the opening of their long-awaited Infant and Toddler Center. The new center provides care for babies from 12 months to 2 years old.

"The center plays an important educational role, which includes its parent education courses and child development training opportunities and it is a safe, positive and convenient place for our students' children while they're attending classes," said Dr. Ted Martinez, Jr., Grossmont College president.

Students in a variety of college disciplines, such as nursing, psychology, art and music, will use the new center to observe the youngsters for class projects and to further their education working with this age group.

The center began accepting children when spring semester started on Jan. 25. The center has already reached its maximum of 16 children and has a waiting list. The youngest child is 13 months old and is just starting to walk. Center hours are 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Judith Nagel and Marisela Cerna, both long-time Grossmont College Child Development instructors, are the center's two full-time teachers. Six additional staff work part time.

Nagel said the center's activities are child directed and teachers work with each child's schedule for eating, sleeping, diapering and playing. The center provides meals, milk, bottles, and diapers for the children.

Parents are involved in the program. Parents who meet income and other qualifications must take a parenting course that includes attending lectures and/or helping at the center for three hours a week.

The Grossmont College Child Development Program has expanded its daycare services.

Bloodmobile to be at Home Savings Saturday

The San Diego Blood Bank will be accepting donations of blood at the NBC 7/39 Bloodmobile from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday when it stops in the parking lot of Home Savings of America, 2792 Sweetwater Springs Blvd. Spring Valley.

All donors at this drive will be recognized with a "skier" t-shirt. Each donor will also receive a free cholesterol screening, a medical history review and a mini-physical which includes blood pressure, pulse, temperature and an iron-level check.

The process of donating blood takes only about one hour. Anyone 17 and older who weighs at least 110 pounds and is in good health may be eligible to give blood. A good meal is recommended prior to donation.

The San Diego Blood Bank supplies more than 30 hospitals in the San Diego, Imperial and southern Riverside county area. It was established as an independent, non-profit organization in 1950 through the support of the San Diego County Medical Society. For more information on any blood drive, or having the "NBC 7/39 Bloodmobile" stop in your area, please call the San Diego Blood Bank at 619-296-6393.

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